

# Calendar No. 1807

82D CONGRESS  
2d Session

SENATE

REPORT  
No. 1877

## PHED VOSNIACOS

JUNE 27, 1952.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. McCARRAN, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

## REPORT

[To accompany S. 1596]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the bill (S. 1596) for the relief of Phed Vosniacos, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

### PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of the bill is to grant the status of permanent residence in the United States to Phed Vosniacos. The bill provides for an appropriate quota deduction and for the payment of the required visa fee and head tax.

### STATEMENT OF FACTS

The beneficiary of the bill is a 24-year-old native and citizen of Greece who last entered the United States on December 1, 1947, to attend Michigan State College at East Lansing, Mich. He is presently employed as a reporter for the State Journal in Lansing, Mich.

A letter, with attached memorandum, dated April 3, 1952, to the chairman of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary from the Deputy Attorney General with reference to the case reads as follows:

APRIL 3, 1952.

HON. PAT McCARRAN,  
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,  
United States Senate, Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR SENATOR: This is in response to your request for the views of the Department of Justice relative to the bill (S. 1596) for the relief of Phed Vosniacos, an alien. The bill would grant the alien permanent residence in the United States.

A memorandum of information prepared by the Immigration and Naturalization Service of this Department, setting forth the facts in the case of this alien, is attached.

The record in this case fails to present facts which would justify the enactment of special legislation granting the alien a preference over others who remain abroad and follow the procedure prescribed by the general law in obtaining permanent residence in the United States.

Accordingly, this Department is unable to recommend enactment of the measure.

Sincerely,

A. DEVITT VANECH,  
Deputy Attorney General.

MEMORANDUM OF INFORMATION FROM IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION  
SERVICE FILES RE PHED VOSNIACOS, BENEFICIARY OF S. 1596

Phed Vosniacos (Phedon Demetri Vosniacos), a citizen of Greece, was born in Athens on July 24, 1927. He arrived at the port of New Orleans, La., on December 1, 1947, as a student to attend Michigan State College, East Lansing, Mich. He received extensions of his temporary stay to October 31, 1951.

Mr. Vosniacos, who is single, has an aunt residing in Chicago, Ill. Since June 1950 he has been employed as a part-time reporter for the State Journal, Lansing, Mich. He attended school in Athens, Greece, until 1940 and from 1941 until 1945 he attended Robert College in Istanbul, Turkey. His parents now reside in Turkey.

The quota of Greece, to which the alien is chargeable, is oversubscribed and a quota immigration visa is not readily obtainable.

Senator Homer Ferguson, the author of the bill, has submitted additional information in support of the bill, among which is the following:

INFORMATION IN CONNECTION WITH BILL S. 1596

*Question No. 1. The circumstances surrounding the entry of the person to the United States*

Was admitted to the United States on December 1, 1947 at the port of New Orleans, La., as a 4 (e) non-quota student. Was enrolled as a foreign student at Michigan State College, East Lansing, Mich., on January 2, 1948, under a full scholarship bestowed by His Holiness Athenagoras, Patriarch of the Greek-Orthodox Churches, Istanbul, Turkey—at the time Archbishop of the Greek-Orthodox Churches in North and South America.

*Question No. 2. The present activities of such person*

Was graduated from Michigan State College on June 3, 1951, with a B. A. degree in journalism. While waiting action on bill S. 1596, reenrolled at Michigan State College for graduate studies in English and political science.

*Question No. 3. How such person is presently earning a living; or whether dependent on some other person for support*

Dependent for support as a graduate student on father, Dimitri S. Vosniacos, commercial counselor, Royal Greek Embassy, Ankara, Turkey.

*Question No. 4. Whether or not such person is engaged in any activities, political, or otherwise, injurious to the American public interest*

No.

*Question No. 5. Has such person been convicted of an offense under any Federal or State law, and if so, what offense*

No.

I swear these statements to be true:

PHED D. VOSNIACOS.

STATE OF MICHIGAN,

County of Ingham:

Subscribed and sworn to before me this, the 24th day of July, 1951.

[SEAL]

HELEN HENDRICKSON,  
Notary Public, Ingham County, Mich.

My commission expires December 14, 1951.

CAPITOL PRESS ROOMS,  
Lansing, Mich., May 28, 1951.

Senator HOMER FERGUSON,  
Senate Office Building, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SENATOR FERGUSON: The members of the press in Lansing are writing you on behalf of Phed Vosniacos, a student at Michigan State College who will be graduated June 3.

Vosniacos is a citizen of Greece but has expressed a strong desire to become a citizen of this Nation.

He has studied in the field of journalism and has shown himself to be exceedingly able. At present, he is editor of the Michigan State News, daily student publication, and formerly correspondent and feature writer for the Lansing State Journal.

Vosniacos has completely adapted himself to the American way of life and has thoroughly Americanized himself. He understands our institutions and has developed a love for this country as a great as any native-born.

We feel that he will be a valuable addition to this Nation's population both professionally and personally. He has without a doubt won the admiration and respect of all those associated with him.

Those of us reporting the Michigan government are convinced of the merit of keeping him here and we urge you to introduce legislation that would allow him to file for citizenship.

Sincerely,

GUY H. JENKINS,  
Booth Newspapers.

DOUGLAS GRAHAM,  
United Press.

JACK I. GREEN,  
Associated Press.

CARL RUDOW,  
Detroit News.

OWEN C. DEATRICK,  
Detroit Free Press.

AL KAUFMAN,  
Detroit Times.

MICHIGAN STATE COLLEGE,  
East Lansing, Mich., May 25, 1951.

The Honorable HOMER FERGUSON,  
United States Senate, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SENATOR FERGUSON: I am writing you on behalf of Phed Vosniacos, a student who is graduating from Michigan State College on June 3, 1951.

Vosniacos is a native of Athens, Greece. He is graduating in journalism, and at the present time is the editor of the student newspaper, the Michigan State News. He would very much like to remain in the United States and has been unable to get permission to do so, and I understand that you are being urged to do what you can to be helpful to him.

I have a high regard for this young man. He is sincere and able, and if it is possible for him to stay in the United States, I am sure he will be a desirable citizen.

Yours sincerely,

JOHN A. HANNAH,  
President.

(A similar letter is being sent to Senator Moody.)

MICHIGAN STATE COLLEGE,  
East Lansing, May 28, 1951.

Hon. HOMER FERGUSON,  
United States Senate, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: I wish to recommend action favorable to a permanent visa for Phed Vosniacos, a native of Greece.

Mr. Vosniacos has just completed his work for a degree in journalism at Michigan State College, and has distinguished himself highly. His leadership in his

field and on campus is attested by the fact that he has been editor of the student daily newspaper (circulation 13,000).

From every standpoint Mr. Vosniacos is a fine American citizen—except the citizenship. If he is granted a permanent visa I am certain he will continue to add his loyalty and his leadership ability to our Nation.

Very respectfully yours,

A. A. APPLGATE,  
Head, Journalism Department

MICHIGAN STATE COLLEGE,  
East Lansing, May 26, 1951.

The Honorable HOMER FERGUSON,  
Washington, D. C.

DEAR SENATOR FERGUSON: It has been called to my attention that an effort will be made to obtain a permanent visa for Phed Vosniacos, a Greek student who is graduating from Michigan State College at this time.

I have been director of student publications at Michigan State College since last July and have been in close touch with Mr. Vosniacos during his senior year. I urge you to do anything you can to obtain a permanent visa for him.

He is the most capable and promising senior I have met this year and in my opinion is destined for a significant role in American newspaper business and democracy.

He has an unusual awareness of citizenship responsibilities, perhaps because of his wide, personal knowledge of ways of life in other countries, and would contribute more to the welfare of this country, as an American citizen, than many native-born, apathetic residents.

Having seen history first-hand, he knows what can happen to peoples who become involved in the machinations of the types of government against which the United States is fighting, and would contribute greatly to this country's efforts.

He is mature, democratic, energetic, and intelligent.

He is a member of Sigma Delta Chi, the honorary journalism fraternity, and Pi Kappa Delta, the honorary forensic society. He has been active in affairs of International Club on the campus, as well as on the student daily newspaper.

For 18 months, on the student speakers bureau and in the "World Understanding Series" sponsored by the Adult Education Service of Michigan State College, he traveled through the State addressing service and farm groups, high-school and grade-school assemblies, and similar meetings. He described the Greek fight against communism, in the light of world democracy, and the appreciation of the Greek people for United States aid. Many of those people will remember him.

Mr. Vosniacos has a great deal to offer to the people of Michigan and the United States, their newspapers, and their Government. I urge you strongly to consider doing what you can to see that he remains here to do it.

Respectfully,

W. F. McILRATH,  
Director, Student Publications.

MICHIGAN STATE COLLEGE,  
East Lansing, June 12, 1951.

The Honorable HOMER FERGUSON,  
United States Senate, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SENATOR FERGUSON: I have been advised that you are sponsoring a bill in Congress to grant me a permanent visa.

Nothing I have done or seen since I came to this country in 1947 has given me a greater pride and confidence in the United States and its manner of living and government.

I have read closely copies of the letters which were sent to you requesting this action. I feel an intense obligation to every one of these correspondents and to you, the Congress and the American people. I assure you I will do everything in my power to live up to these obligations. I feel each one of them is a personal commitment of what ability and knowledge I possess, both as a result of my training at Michigan State College and my experiences and observations in Greece and Turkey.

One of the things that has impressed all of us foreign students greatly is that the representatives of the American people in Congress are in close contact with the



people themselves. My personal experience in this case has been one of the greatest lessons in democracy to which a stranger could be exposed.

I have experienced bureaucratic problems all through Europe; have been exposed to the "untouchability" of European governmental representatives; have seen how it is possible for a government to so isolate itself from the people that it becomes impossible for them to express their ideas and desires in an effective manner.

In the United States, by contrast, it is possible for the people themselves to express their interests and desires personally to their representatives.

I honestly believe that as long as this manner of effective government "by the people and for the people" is possible, this country is safe from the encroachments which have destroyed the freedoms of other people in other lands; and if I may have the privilege of becoming an American citizen, I will do my outmost to remain always on the alert and to fight for the preservation of these great democratic principles.

I hope and pray that with your help I will have the opportunity to do so.

Respectfully yours,

PHED D. VOSNIACOS.

The committee, after consideration of all the facts in the case, is of the opinion that the bill (S. 1596) should be enacted.

○

people themselves. My personal experience in this case has been one of the greatest lessons in democracy to which a citizen could be exposed. I have experienced democratic problems all through history, have been exposed to the "unintended" or "Enlightened" government representative, have seen how it is possible for a government to so isolate itself from the people that it becomes impossible for them to express their will and desire in an effective manner.

In the United States, by contrast, it is possible for the people themselves to express their interests and desires personally to their representatives. I honestly believe that as long as this manner of executive government by the people and for the people is possible, this country is safe from the dangers which have destroyed the freedom of other people in other lands; and if I may have the privilege of becoming an American citizen, I will be interested to learn along with the rest of the world for the preservation of these great democratic principles.

I hope and trust that with your help I will have the opportunity to do so.

Yours D. Vossler

The committee, after consideration of all the facts in the case, is of the opinion that the bill (S. 1500) should be enacted.